

THE LARVAL TROMBICULID MITES (CHIGGERS)
OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS*

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Examination of chiggers (larval Trombiculidae) of the Philippine Islands in the collection of the B.P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, is currently being undertaken. The collection history, importance of chiggers, study methodology, and host species for Leyte Island are presented. Host species include Rattus spp. and other small mammals, bats, birds, and lizards. Preliminary identification of trombiculids to genus include Ascoschoengastia, Chiroptella, Euschoengastia, Walchia, Walchiella, and Whartonia. Any new entities found in this collection will be described to the appropriate taxonomic level.